



**Expert discussion, March 2017**

**The LINKS project (Learning from Innovation and Networking in STEM - science, technology, engineering and mathematics) aims at improving inquiry-based STEM teaching through the continuing professional development (CPD) of teachers and their educators, both at primary and secondary levels.**

## **Why LINKS?**

Partners involved in LINKS, organised through educational and national networks, consider CPD as the most effective leverage to enhance the achievements of pupils in STEM.

However, to make the most of CPD benefits, it is crucial to design and implement policies and programmes that target effectively the needs of teachers.

This supposes to address appropriately the following issues:

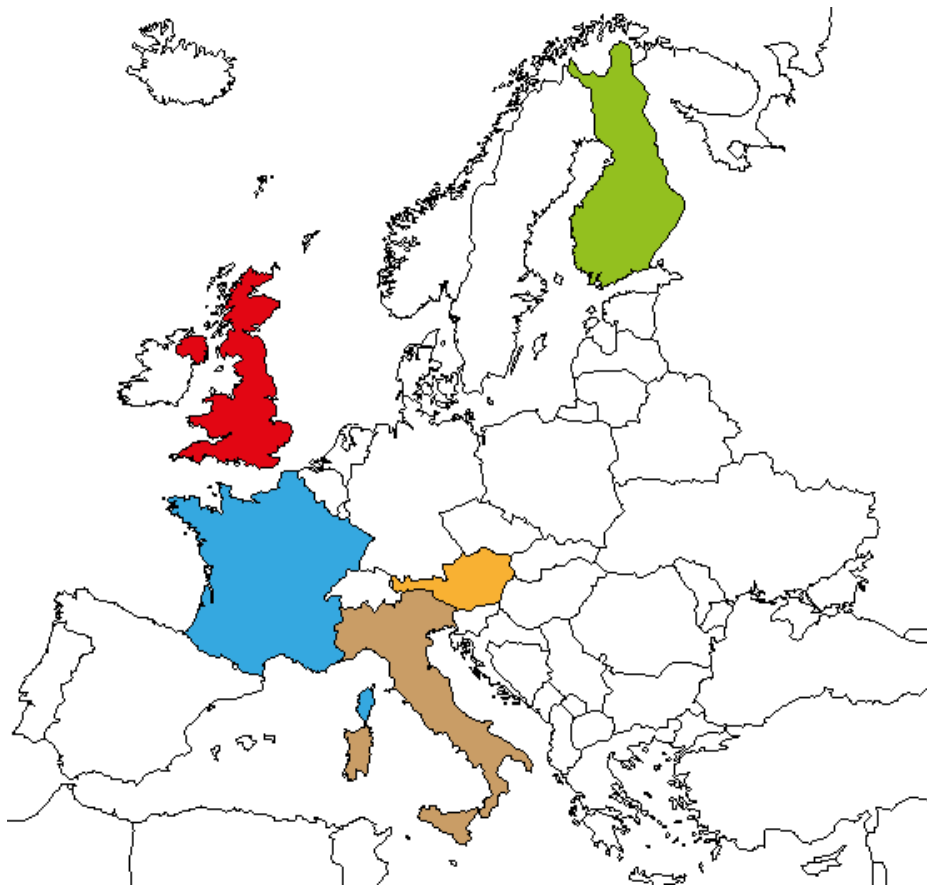
- What type of knowledge and skills should be developed among teachers and educators?
- What sort of innovations should be brought to CPD in terms of content, methods, tools, especially in the context of digitalisation?
- Who should contribute to CPD apart from traditional CPD providers?
- Especially, what should be the role of employers and of the scientific community?

Besides, partners take up another key challenge which is the commitment of decision-makers in the support to the expansion and sustainability of proposed CPD strategy.

To raise a strong and long-lasting interest for the innovations and features developed by partners, a pre-condition is the reinforcement of their capacity to provide evidence of the positive impact of their CPD activities on teaching practices and learning outcomes.

## A network of 9 partners

The project is carried by a partnership composed of **9 institutions** involved in STEM CPD of teachers and their educators in **Austria, Finland, France, Italy and the United Kingdom**. They belong (and some of them coordinate) to national networks which all together **represent 120 local CPD providers**.



## To know more about LINKS

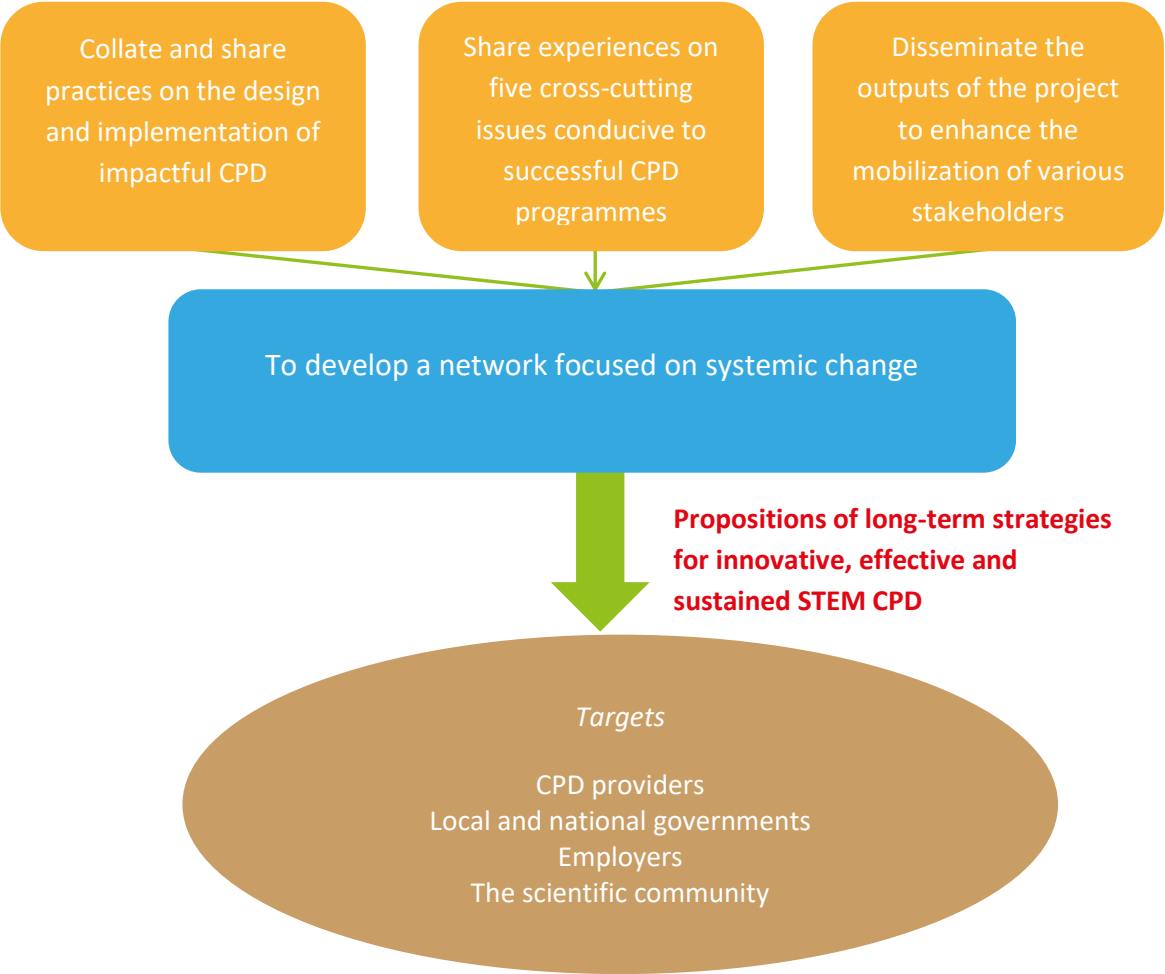
Objectives  
& strategy

Outputs

Events

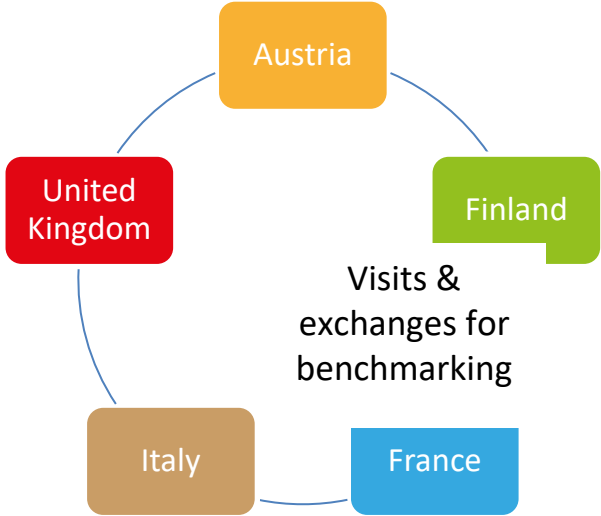
Contacts  
and  
partners

### Objectives and strategy of LINKS



### Main expected outputs of LINKS

A study on effective and innovative practices developed in partners' CPD programmes



This study will be available in English by **January 2018**.

**Five guidance tools and their brochures on five cross-cutting issues**



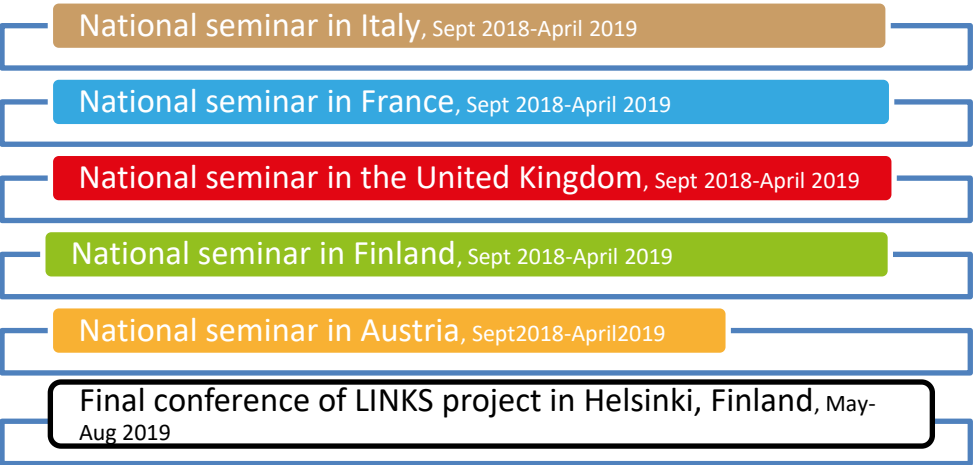
These guidance tools will be available in English, French, Finnish, Italian and German by **April 2019**.

For more information or if you are interested in these study and guidance tools, please contact us.

**Fourth page : events**

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**Six dissemination events are organised during the project lifetime**



Periods are provided for information purposes only. Precised dates will be determined later on.

For more information or if you are interested to take part in these events, please contact us.

## Fifth page: Contacts and partners

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### Coordination of LINKS

Fondation *La main à la pâte*

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### LINKS in Austria



Represent the IMST network

### LINKS in Finland



Represent the Luma Centre Finland



### LINKS in France



Represent the



network *Des Maisons pour la science*

### LINKS in Italy



### LINKS in the United Kingdom



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### *On each footpage*

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<http://www.naturerlebnispark.at>